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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. PTK-194 (465/133)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Sousa *et al.*  
SERIAL NO.: 09/822,045 GROUP NO.: 2828  
FILING DATE: March 30, 2001 EXAMINER: Cornelius H. Jackson  
TITLE: Mode-Limiting Diode Laser Structure

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on September 25, 2002. Applicants respectfully request that the amendments and remarks that follow be considered and that the rejections made in the Office Action be withdrawn. Applicants believe that no fees are due. Should Applicants be in error, and additional time for responding to this Office Action is required, please consider this paper as a conditional petition for an extension of time and conditional authorization to charge fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

**In the specification:**

Please delete the first paragraph under the heading "Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments." (Page 13, line 12 through page 14, line 5.) Please replace with the replacement paragraph as set forth below (a marked-up version of the amended specification is attached at the end of this Amendment and Response):

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The present invention provides a laser-diode structure whose output is largely single-mode. This is achieved by using a ridged top layer that defines the amplification region within the underlying emission layer, and which is provided with grooves that suppress the higher

7/A Amdt  
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A. Walker  
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